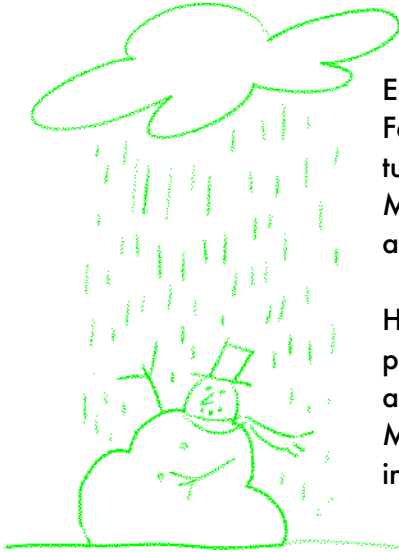


Precipitation and Agriculture



Each year, the Missouri Department of Agriculture publishes "Missouri Farm Facts." This book gives all of the facts and numbers (statistics) about Agriculture in our state. In "Missouri Farm Facts", you can even find information about Missouri weather. Why do you think weather would be of interest to people in agriculture?

Here is a table from "Missouri Farm Facts 98" that shows precipitation for the previous year. Do you know what precipitation means? Precipitation refers to all moisture. It may have been in the form of rain, snow, sleet, or ice. Select the Missouri city that you live nearest. Create a bar graph that shows how many inches of precipitation were received each month.

Precipitation

Weather Station	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>-inches of water-</i>												
Maryville	0.58	2.78	1.07	4.52	3.52	2.07	2.85	2.17	6.16	5.03	2.77	1.70
Brookfield	1.66	4.47	2.04	6.49	3.69	3.45	1.24	4.68	2.76	6.42	2.19	2.30
Kirksville	0.00	2.02	1.60	4.35	6.40	2.41	2.97	2.53	2.64	4.94	1.43	1.77
Hannibal	1.81	6.35	2.20	4.22	3.91	1.42	1.11	3.06	1.45	2.36	2.18	2.72
Kansas City 1/	0.69	2.94	1.16	4.13	4.63	2.90	3.53	2.49	3.34	2.98	1.95	2.32
Columbia 1/	2.35	4.85	1.86	2.70	5.78	3.16	0.42	5.50	2.30	3.11	3.34	1.79
St. Louis 1/	2.74	4.14	2.85	2.66	3.06	2.00	1.44	3.36	2.73	2.05	2.36	1.86
Clinton	1.41	5.32	2.34	3.93	7.87	4.90	1.51	4.65	3.31	5.48	3.85	3.67
Rolla	3.78	4.47	4.38	1.87	8.25	4.56	0.80	4.95	1.87	2.94	4.05	2.48
Springfield	1.39	4.02	4.09	2.76	4.66	3.58	1.72	4.21	3.69	3.43	1.78	3.15
Poplar Bluff	1.55	5.33	4.01	5.25	7.32	2.58	3.41	6.44	2.71	3.07	2.89	4.50

Monthly Precipitation in _____



Missouri's Rank Among States 1997

	RANK	UNIT	TOTAL	PERCENT OF U.S. TOTAL
General				
Farm Numbers	2	<i>farms</i>	102,000	5.0
Cash Receipts	13	<i>million dollars</i>	5,564	2.7
Crops				
Hay, excluding alfalfa	2	<i>tons</i>	5,850,000	8.0
Hay, all	4	<i>tons</i>	7,194,000	4.7
Sorghum, grain	4	<i>bushels</i>	40,920,000	6.3
Potatoes	6	<i>hundredweight</i>	1,479,000	.32
Soybeans	6	<i>bushels</i>	177,025,000	6.5
Rice, all	6	<i>hundredweight</i>	5,777,000	3.2
Concord grapes	6	<i>tons</i>	230	.05
Sorghum, silage	9	<i>tons</i>	56,000	1.4
Watermelon	9	<i>hundredweight</i>	1,128,000	2.8
Corn for grain	10	<i>bushels</i>	332,920,000	3.6
Cotton, all	10	<i>bales</i>	565,000	3.0
Cottonseed	10	<i>tons</i>	223,000	3.2
Winter wheat	10	<i>bushels</i>	57,200,000	3.0
Grapes, all	11	<i>tons</i>	1,900	.03
Tobacco, all	12	<i>pounds</i>	7,035,000	.39
Peaches (utilized commercial)	15	<i>pounds</i>	10,500,000	.42
Apples (utilized commercial)	20	<i>pounds</i>	39,500,000	.38
Alfalfa hay	25	<i>tons</i>	1,344,000	1.7
Oats	25	<i>bushels</i>	1,674,000	1.0
Corn silage	26	<i>tons</i>	960,000	1.0
Livestock & Livestock Products				
Beef cow operations	2	<i>number</i>	60,000	6.8
Cattle operations	2	<i>number</i>	69,000	5.9
Beef cows ^{1/}	2	<i>head</i>	1,990,000	5.9
Calf crop	2	<i>head</i>	2,000,000	5.2
All cows ^{1/}	3	<i>head</i>	2,150,000	5.0
Turkeys raised	5	<i>head</i>	22,000,000	7.3
Cattle & calves ^{1/}	6	<i>head</i>	4,300,000	4.3
Hogs & pigs ^{2/}	6	<i>head</i>	3,550,000	5.8
Milk cow operations	8	<i>number</i>	3,600	3.1
Hog operations	9	<i>number</i>	5,500	4.0
Total cheese production	9	<i>pounds</i>	166,713,000	2.3
Broiler production	10	<i>head</i>	250,000,000	3.2
Sheep operations	12	<i>number</i>	2,100	2.8
Ice cream (hard & soft) production	12	<i>gallons</i>	15,096,000	1.7
Milk cows ^{1/}	13	<i>head</i>	160,000	1.7
Egg production	14	<i>millions</i>	1,719	2.2
All chickens ^{3/}	15	<i>head</i>	9,445,000	2.3
Milk production	16	<i>pounds</i>	2,365,000,000	1.5
Red meat production	16	<i>pounds</i>	736,800,000	1.7
Cattle & calves on feed ^{1/}	19	<i>head</i>	110,000	0.8
Wool production	21	<i>pounds</i>	506,000	0.9
Honey production	22	<i>pounds</i>	1,848,000	1.0
Sheep & lambs ^{1/}	25	<i>head</i>	65,000	0.9

1/ Inventory on hand January 1, 1998.

2/ Inventory on hand December 1, 1997.

3/ Inventory on hand December 1, 1997 (excludes commercial broilers).